

Sinclair
Broadcasting's
decision to force
their stations to
air an anti-Kerry
documentary days
before the election
is a clear example
of the dangers of
media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the
public airwaves free
of charge, and is
obligated by law to
serve the public
interest. But when
large companies
control the
airwaves, we get
more of what's good
for the bottom line
and less of what we
need for our
democracy. Instead
of something
produced at "News
Central" far away,
it's more important
that we see real
people from our own
communities and more
substantive news
about issues that
matter.

Further, the intent
of Sinclair to
broadcast a program
that takes a
position on a
candidate in the
guise of "news"
programming is an
obvious attempt to
circumvent equal
time regulations for
political
programming. The
FCC must enforce
regulations
according to what
the programs are,
not what station
owners call them.

Sinclair's actions

show why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them. They
show why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than a returned
postcard. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Orr